

**SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION recognizing the Barton Rees
Pogue Indiana Poetry and Arts Festival in Upland, Indiana.

HOLDMAN

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on



Introduced

First Regular Session 117th General Assembly (2011)

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. _____

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION recognizing the Barton Rees Pogue Indiana Poetry and Arts Festival in Upland, Indiana.

Whereas, The Barton Rees Pogue Indiana Poetry and Arts Festival will be held in Upland, Indiana on April 16, 2011;

Whereas, Barton Rees Pogue was an Indiana poet, preacher, professor, radio personality, and publisher of several books of poetry;

Whereas, Pogue was born in Monon, Indiana in 1891. He spent many of his formative years in Greenfield, Indiana, hometown of the poet James Whitcomb Riley, a favorite of Pogue's growing up;

Whereas, Pogue married in 1911. He pursued his education at Taylor University in Upland, Indiana, graduating from the college in 1918 at the age of 27. He later earned a degree in theology from Boston University, a degree from the Rice School of the Spoken Word in Massachusetts, and a master's degree from the University of Michigan;

Whereas, While pursuing his education, Pogue served ten years as a minister in Massachusetts and Indiana;



Whereas, After finishing his education, Pogue returned to his alma mater, Taylor University, working as the Director of Public Speaking and Dramatics for eleven years. He also taught speech at Indiana University for a year;

Whereas, Pogue began writing poetry while a student at Taylor University, influenced by the works of James Whitcomb Riley. Pogue considered himself a humorist as opposed to a comedian;

Whereas, For several months, Pogue presented themed readings for the Sears Roebuck radio station in Chicago and for twelve years on WLW in Cincinnati. He was a lecturer on the Chautauqua network, and also did programs for the Indiana Farmers' Guide;

Whereas, Pogue's reputation as a lecturer grew and he ultimately entertained audiences in twenty states, reading his poetry more than 3,000 times;

Whereas, Pogue's poetry was published under the same themes of his readings: "Songs of the Soil," "Fortunes in Friendship," and "Wayside Windows." As a book, "Songs of the Soil" sold 1000 copies in eight months. His work also appeared in the Indiana Farmers Guide for sixteen years, the McClure Newspaper Syndicated publications for three years, and during the 1940s the Scripps-Howard Indianapolis Times published a regular column of his verse;

Whereas, Pogue published six books of poetry. In March 1965, he passed away just two days before the release of his sixth book, "The Rhyme Book of a Real Boy";

Whereas, Pogue also served as the Director of the Upland Public Library for several years, and the current library building bears his name;

Whereas, The Barton Rees Pogue Indiana Poetry and Arts Festival will be held on April 16, 2011 in Upland,



Indiana. The festival will include activities at various locations from 9 am to 4 pm, culminating in a poetry contest; and

Whereas, Barton Rees Pogue remains one of the finest poets Indiana has ever had, and the festival that bears his name will undoubtedly be a worthwhile event: Therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, the House of Representatives concurring:

- 1 SECTION 1. The Indiana General Assembly recognizes the
- 2 Barton Rees Pogue Indiana Poetry and Arts Festival.
- 3 SECTION 2. The Secretary of the Senate is hereby directed to
- 4 transmit a copy of this Resolution to Nancy Gore.

